

THE Trumpet

The monthly newsletter of the Office of the State Fire Marshal



The Trumpet—July 2013

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@ksfiremarshal

From the Fire Marshal

Summer is heating up, and with it the increased risk in wildfires. As witnessed by the terrible wildfires in Arizona, the threat isn't just to land and property, but lives as well. As we go to press with this issue of The Trumpet, 19 firefighters have lost their lives battling that out-of-control blaze. Our thoughts and prayers go out to their families.

Our office issued a burn advisory this year, and even with the increased moisture in June, we advise being very cautious about conducting any grass or brush burnings this season if it can be avoided.

In this issue, we're taking a look at the life of a fire investigator through an interview with Rose Rozmiarek, chief of investigations. I am very proud of our investigative team who use their skills at interviewing and applying forensic science to reach conclusions about how fires throughout Kansas get started.

You'll also be introduced to several new OSFM staff members, including our entirely new Boiler Inspection Unit.

Finally, check out our brand new website at FireMarshal.ks.gov. I hope you like what you'll see!

As always, remember that your OSFM is ready and willing to be of assistance. Please feel free to contact us anytime via phone or email.

Sincerely,



Doug Jorgensen
Fire Marshal



THE
Trumpet

July 2013

Fire Marshal

Doug Jorgensen

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Our Mission

The Office of the State Fire Marshal is dedicated to protecting the lives and property of the people of Kansas from the hazards of fire, explosion and hazardous materials by fostering a safe environment through education, inspection, enforcement, regulation, investigation, hazardous material incident mitigation, data collection, and by acting as a liaison to the Kansas Fire Service.

All of the efforts of the Office are designed to reduce the deaths, injuries and property losses of Kansans.

Trumpet Deadline

For information on receiving the State Fire Marshal *Trumpet* or to submit your meeting notices, training announcements, articles, photos or other information, please contact Kevin Doel. Photos should be submitted as a .jpg or .tif attachment to an email. All materials are due by the 20th of the month prior to publication.

By the Numbers

There were a total of **64** on-duty fire-fighter deaths in the U.S. in 2012, making 2012 the second consecutive year that the total has been below 65 deaths.

Source: NFPA

A single ember from a wildfire can travel up to **1** mile and start a new blaze.

Source: FireAdapted.org

On average, fire-fighters respond to more than **400** kitchen fires every day.

Source: NFPA



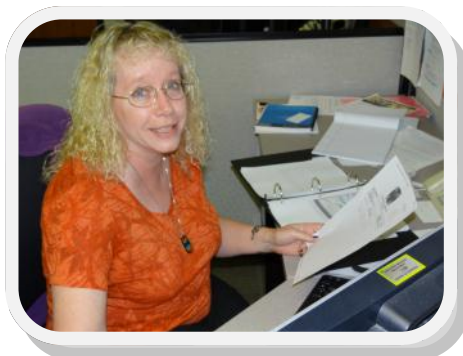
HOT NEWS FROM THE OSFM

Welcome Mende Barnett, Education Consultant

Mende Barnett has joined the OSFM staff as the Education Consultant. Mende spent over ten years in the funeral business, but after receiving her BA in Business Leadership in 2012, she decided to look for a new career field. "My professional experience in public speaking and database management allowed me to expand my career and join the team of the State Fire Marshal."



Sonya Scheuneman Joins OSFM as Admin Asst



Sonya Scheuneman has joined the OSFM staff as an Administrative Assistant. Sonya was at KDOT for about eight years as Lead Worker in the Photo/Video section and provided graphic design and photography services to the agency. Sonya is pursuing photography, design and PhotoArt as a business on the side and has been in art shows and local galleries.

Visit Our New Website FireMarshal.ks.gov

- Breaking news
- Fire prevention resources
- Information about our Prevention, Investigation and Haz-Mat divisions
- Forms, Rules & Regs you need
- Educational resources for kids



Welcome New Boiler Inspection Team!

In March, Gov. Brownback signed into law SB 135, a bill that transfers responsibility for boiler inspections from the Department of Labor to the OSFM. With this new responsibility comes new personnel, including :



Don Jenkins

Chief Boiler Inspector



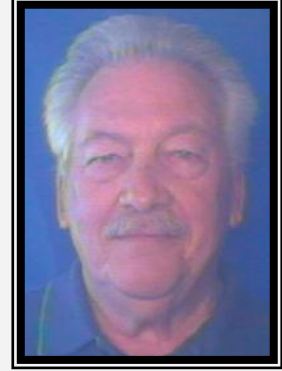
Max Rankin, Deputy

Southwest Kansas



Charles Wilson, Deputy

Eastern Kansas



Ron Sleeth, Deputy

Central Kansas



Jessica Dunderdale Moves to Boiler Unit as Admin Asst.

Jessica Dunderdale joined the office as a receptionist where she has work since October 2012. She now joins the boiler inspection unit as a Senior Administrative Assistant. She previously served in the Army as an Ammunition Specialist, where she spent time in Kuwait and Korea. She enjoys exercising and hiking with her husband Jason and their two dogs.

New Brochures:

“What to Expect When You’re Inspected”

Our office has just published a new brochure entitled “What to Expect When You’re Inspected” which will give facilities a helpful checklist of items to look for and perhaps improve prior to a scheduled inspection. As the brochure states, “We want to work with you to ensure that if a fire were to occur, damage is limited as much as possible and firefighters can operate efficiently and safely. Practicing fire prevention and addressing fire hazards is a great investment.” Please contact our office if you would like to request a copy of the brochure.



What does it take to be a Fire Investigator?

An interview with Rose Rozmiarek, Chief of Investigations

How long have you been a fire investigator?

I have been a fire and explosive investigator, exclusively, for 12 years. I also conducted fire investigations as part of my law enforcement duties for 17 years before that.

What got you started in that career?

As a law enforcement officer / investigator I wanted to specialize in a field. I also wanted to apply my academic degree in Criminalistics more in my profession. I thought the uniqueness of fire investigations would be a good area to specialize in.

What key skills do you think are required of a fire investigator?

Due to the scientific method that is used in fire investigations, analytical skills are necessary to interpret and form our expert opinions.

Communication skills are also important. Fire investigators must collect data from various resources and one main resource is information from witnesses and victims. Communication and interview skills are a must to obtain as much information and accurate information from people. Also, investigators must not only take in information, but they must also document and produce it in a logical, detailed, and

organized manner.

Social skills and professionalism will assist in dealing with various people involved such as the victims, suspects, other public safety personnel, legal system, and other professional experts.

And, last but not least, fire investigators need to be able to continue obtaining knowledge and new skills to keep up-to-date with changes in processes, technology, and legal updates.

What are the main tools in your investigation toolkit?

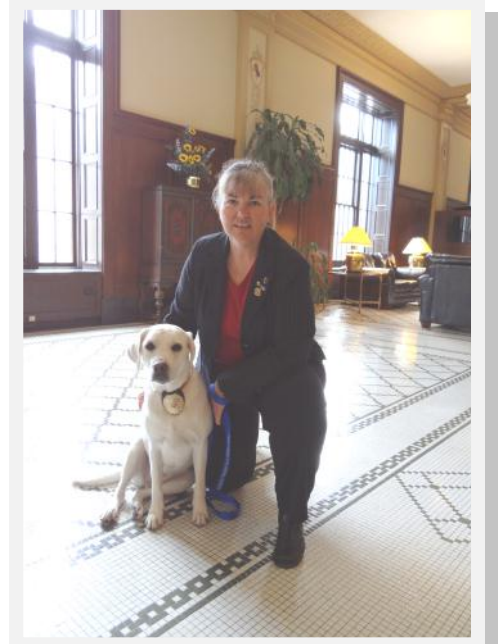
The main tools in our toolkit are note taking materials. If we do not document it, it did not happen. A good high quality camera is a must. Our main evidence is the photographs of the scene, to illustrate the fire damage, fire patterns, and evidence related to the cause of the fire.

How are dogs used as part of a fire investigation?

Accelerant detection canines are tools to assist investigators at the fire scene. They assist in locating the presence of ignitable liquids at a scene. They reduce the time investigators are on the scene because the investigator does not need to dig the whole scene for deciding where to take samples for analysis. Once areas for sampling are identified, the samples pinpointed by the canine will be better samples and less samples are needed. This also reduces the number of samples the chemist at the laboratory must analyze.

What are some of the signs that a fire scene is arson?

There wouldn't be just one evidentiary item by itself that would lead us to call a fire



Chief Investigator Rose Rozmiarek with Tana

scene arson. We look at the whole scene, evidence, and witness statements. Some items may be multiple fires, no accidental causes in the area of origin, and no utilities. These are just a few items that may lead to a possible intentionally set fire.

What is the fire investigator's role in the arrest and prosecution of an arsonist?

Fire Investigators must do a complete and thorough scene investigation as well as background and follow up investigation. The investigator then presents the case to the prosecutor for review and potential charges being filed against the suspect. Once a suspect is charged, the investigator will assist the prosecutor with any other information needed to assist in the trial. The fire investigator will also testify at any court proceeding such as preliminary hearing and case trial. Once the case is turned over to the prosecutor, the fire investigator plays an assisting role to the prosecutor.

What is the Certified Fire Investigator program?

The State of Kansas Certified Fire Investigator program is a program administered by the Office of the State Fire Marshal and gives those fire investigators from local fire departments the ability to have law enforce-



Fire Investigators (cont'd)

ment authority and powers to arrest when investigating arson and insurance fraud cases in their area of jurisdiction. Those qualified applicants must meet specific training requirements and have approval of their fire chief.

How will BATS help fire investigators?

BATS is a national bomb and arson reporting program that is used by federal, state, and local fire departments and law enforcement agencies to report fire and explosive investigations. This system will al-

low fire investigators that have law enforcement authority the ability to conduct national searches of possible arson suspects. It will also allow for identifying trends in the area of fire causes.

Why are their specialist in fire investigations?

Fire investigations are a unique type of investigation. These types of investigations are not as clearly identifiable like other crimes such as burglary or homicide. With crimes like burglary or homicide, in most cases as soon as you enter the

scene you know you have a crime based on the readily identifiable evidence. With fire investigations, you go into the scene with an unbiased opinion on the cause of the fire or explosion. You must collect all the evidence at hand, utilize the scientific method, and form opinion to what occurred at the scene. Fire investigators are one of a few investigators that will give 'opinions' of their interpretation of the evidence and applying fire science processes.

From our Investigation Division:

Temporary Explosive Rules & Regs

The Office of the State Fire Marshal is pleased to announce the adoption of temporary rules and regulations which will restore the agency's oversight and ability to regulate the Explosive industry in Kansas. These temporary rules and regulations will be in place until the state legislature adopts permanent rules and regulations during the next legislative session.

A past clerical error removed most State Fire Marshal rules and regulations pertaining to the explosive industry and, therefore, the OSFM did not have statutory authority to issue user or blaster permits. As of March 7, 2013, the OSFM discontinued issuing user or blaster permits for the explosive industry and announced that state user permits would no longer be required in order to obtain an explosives storage permit.

With the need to know where and when all explosives in the state are being made, sold, used, and stored, the office of the Kansas Attorney General advised that the most prudent way to correct the oversight would be

to adopt new temporary rules and regulations until permanent rules and regulations could be adopted through the official state process.

"I believe that in the current times we live in, these temporary and future permanent rules and regulations are critical to the safety of those not only in the industry but to the citizens of Kansas and the country," said Doug Jorgensen, State Fire Marshal.

The permanent rules and regulations have been approved by the Department of Administration and the Attorney General's Office and are scheduled for a public hearing on September 11, 2013. These rules and regulations will provide the OSFM and the industry a better picture of how many manufacturers, users (distributors, wholesalers), blasters, and storage sites are actually operating in the state. Current records show that there may be as many as three manufacturers, 178 users, 1,412 blasters, and 201 storage sites operating in the state.

Investigation Update:

Bar Owner Pleads No Contest to Arson



The owner of a popular Hays, Kansas bar and grill heavily damaged in an October fire pleaded no contest in Ellis County District

Court to a single count of aggravated arson. Based on the state's sentencing guidelines, Benjamin Michael "Mike" Butler likely will be sentenced to two year's probation under the supervision of community corrections. Butler was charged with aggravated arson -- aggravated because a person was in the complex -- in late December when the fire was started.

The fire, apparently started when Butler left a candle burning when he left T-Bone's Sports Bar and Grill, 2415 General Hays, during the early morning hours of Oct. 9, gutted the business and caused extensive smoke damage to other businesses in the Centennial Shopping Center. Under the terms of the plea, Butler is expected to be required to make restitution amounting to nearly \$350,000 to six other businesses damaged by the fire.

With the help of the State Fire Marshal's office, it was determined the fire started in the office of T-Bones.

From Our Prevention Division:

New Code Requirement for Dry Chemical Extinguishers

By Brenda Reber, Fire Prevention Inspector



A new requirement is fast approaching for dry chemical stored pressure fire extinguishers. Since OSFM has adopted the 2007 edition of NFPA 10, there is a code change that all vendors and facility owners need to be aware of in regards to NFPA 10 4.4.1 which states: Dry chemical stored pressure extinguishers manufactured prior to October 1984 shall be removed from service at the next 6 year maintenance interval or the next hydro test interval, whichever comes first. This

change will take effect only on and after January 1, 2014.

Therefore, with this being said, if a dry chemical extinguisher has had its 6 year maintenance or the next hydro test prior to January 1, 2014 the extinguisher will be able to remain in-service until the time is up for the next maintenance check.



Blue Ribbon Inspections

By Diana Sabatino, Fire Prevention Inspector

Bern Oil – Bern, KS

Bern Oil Company in Bern Kansas, Nemaha County gets a total of five inspections which include propane and fuel sites. During my June 2013 fire inspections at these sites, all were documented as NO DEFICIENCY inspections. Bern Oil goes out of their way to have one of the cleanest propane/fuel sites that I inspect in my five county territory area. Thank you Bern Oil for special attention and time that is put into keeping your sites deficiency free.



Starlite Motel – Seneca, KS

Starlite Motel located in Seneca Kansas, Nemaha County, has received their 2nd year in a row NO DEFICIENCY fire inspection. Starlite Motel is one of the cleanest motels I have stayed in during my inspection travels. The owners are so friendly and accommodating. If ever traveling through Seneca and you need a motel, make sure to check out this motel, you will not be disappointed. Thank you Starlite Motel for making my job a bit easier and your travelers stay comfortable.

Country Place Senior Living – Seneca, KS

Country Place Senior Living assisted living facility in Seneca Kansas - Nemaha County received their 2nd year NO DEFICIENCY fire inspection from me. The staff at Country Place definitely takes pride in their job as it is well noticed upon entering the front door. The facility is so clean, the staff is very friendly, and residents are happy. Thank you Country Place Senior Living, keep up the great work!



Sprinkler System Myths vs. Realities

By Jack Chatmon, Fire Protection Specialist

There are many misconceptions when it comes to automatic fire sprinkler systems and their effectiveness for controlling fires and protecting lives within private residential dwellings. Sprinkler systems have been in existence for over 100 years and are continually being improved in order to provide the most economical and efficient means of fire-suppression for all applications, whether in commercial or residential structures. The purpose of this article is to refute those myths and state facts which re-enforce that fire sprinklers respond quickly to nearby fires and function well without creating problems for homeowners.

Probably the most common myth is that every sprinkler will activate and that everything in the house will be ruined. This is false. In the event of a fire, typically, only the sprinkler closest to the fire will activate and spray water directly on the fire, leaving the rest of the house dry and secure. Just one sprinkler activates in approximately 85% of the time they are present at a fire.

Another common misconception is that home fire sprinklers are expensive and will make housing unaffordable, especially for first-time homebuyers. The fact is home fire sprinklers are affordable and only cost around \$1.61 per sq. ft. for new construction. The presence of fire sprinklers can help houses sell faster than those without, significantly reduce property loss, cut insurance premiums, and even qualify a home for a tax rebate.



Other Myths vs. Realities

Myth: A smoke alarm provides enough protection and any time it is triggered it will activate the home fire sprinklers.

Fact: Smoke alarms only alert occupants to the presence of a danger, but do nothing to extinguish the fire. Home fire sprinkler systems also reduce the heat and smoke allowing for a quicker and safer evacuation. Fire sprinklers do not operate in response to smoke, vapors, steam, or activating alarms.

Myth: The water damage caused by the sprinkler system will be more expensive than the fire damage.

Fact: Home fire sprinklers can significantly reduce property loss and damage due to a fire. The sprinkler will quickly control the heat and smoke, limiting damage to other areas of the house. Any resulting water damage from the sprinkler will be much less severe than the damage caused by water from fire-fighting hose lines.

Myth: If you want your home fire sprinklers to be reliable they will need frequent, expensive maintenance.

Fact: The standard design for home sprinklers is much simpler than the design for more traditional sprinklers like the ones used in commercial buildings. Maintenance only consists of visual inspections to make sure sprinkler heads are not ob-

structed, items are not hanging from sprinkler pipe, and control valves are not closed and easily accessible.

Myth: Newer homes are safer homes.

Fact: Statistically the only fire safety issue that is relevant to the age of the home is the electrical wiring. Newer, larger homes often contain a greater fuel load, open spaces, void spaces, and lightweight wood trusses and engineered lumber that add to the risk of a fire.

Myth: Home fire sprinklers are unattractive and will ruin the aesthetics of a home.

Fact: New home fire sprinkler models are very unobtrusive, can be mounted flush with walls or ceilings, and can be concealed behind decorative covers.

Myth: Home fire sprinklers are not practical in colder climates, as the pipes will freeze and cause water damage.

Fact: With proper installation home sprinkler systems will not freeze in colder settings. *NFPA 13D, Sprinkler Systems in Dwellings and Manufactured Homes*, sets forth guidelines on proper insulation to avoid pipes freezing. The Chicago area is a great example of a cold weather region where many jurisdictions have passed sprinkler mandates for new homes with limited to no problems with system freezing.

Myth: Sprinkler heads activate accidentally.

Fact: When installed and maintained correctly, leaks are very unlikely due to each individual sprinkler head being designed and calibrated to activate only when it senses a significant heat change.

Summer Means Propane Inspections

By Adam Lespreance, Fire Prevention Inspector

It's Summer! And the Office of the State Fire Marshal's (OSFM) propane season is in full swing. Inspectors throughout Kansas will be visiting: propane bulk plants, dispensing stations, and cylinder exchange cabinet locations to ensure they meet current safety standards. Approximately, 227 propane related inspections have been completed thus far for the 2013 season. The table to the right includes some of the recurring violations that our field inspectors are finding.

Licensing Requirement- The OSFM requires all propane, bulk storage units, dispensing units, and cylinder exchange cabinets to be licensed and renewed on an annual basis. A common licensing violation is from cylinder exchange cabinets that do not have a current year, cylinder exchange cabinet, sticker on them. Before a cabinet can be put into service the company must inform OSFM of the location of where the cabinet is being placed and pay the licensing fee for the cabinet. This can be completed by filling out a class 6 propane application form and submitting it along with correct payment to our office.

Signage- The OSFM requires that weather proof signs be located at all LP-Gas locations. Information on the sign should indicate the owner's name, facility address, 24/7 emergency number, and class 1 dealer license number. Letters and numbers on signs must be at least 3 inches in height (K.A.R 22-8-2). For cylinder

exchange cabinets, each cabinet needs to be marked with the following terms and information: "PROPANE", "NO SMOKING", owner information, NFPA 704 Fire Diamond, and product information (K.A.R 22-8-17). One of the more popular reasons cabinet signage is cited, is because signs have become illegible due to weathering. It is important that signage remains legible, so it can be easily read from a distance in the event of an emergency.

Education Requirement- The majority of the "Education Requirement" violations can be connected to the training requirements, for the cylinder exchange cabinet program participants. The OSFM requires that a designee be trained in LP-cylinder handling practices for each leased or contracted location. It is then the responsibility of the store designee to provide proper training to each employee involved in handling propane. Kansas Propane dealers and cylinder exchange participants can find an approved training booklet on the OSFM website to meet this requirement.

The OSFM would like to remind all Kansas Propane dealers that the 2013-2014 propane license renewal period

Violation	Occurrences
Licensing Requirement	77
Cabinet Signage	31
Education Requirement	18
Cabinet Protection	13
Cylinder Fire Extinguisher	9
Fire Extinguisher Annual Service	9
Combustible Storage weeds, Grass, Trash	7
Emergency Shutoff Valve	7
Cabinet Location	7

runs between June 15th thru July 15th. By now all current licensed LP dealers should have received a renewal packet. If you have not received a Propane renewal packet please contact the OSFM at (785) -291-3428.

New Video on Prescribed Burns



Great Plains Fire Science has produced a video series available to be viewed on [YouTube](#) which features interviews with ranchers and experts throughout the Great Plains region on why Prescribed Burning is so important.

This video series focuses on why ranchers use fire, how to get started with fire, challenges they face, and the importance of working with neighbors and prescribed fire associations.

OSFM INSPECTIONS AND SUBMITTING A PLAN OF CORRECTION RESPONSE By Barbara Sumpter, Fire Prevention Inspector

At the conclusion of an Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) inspection, the OSFM inspector will provide every facility with a Violation Notice containing a list of deficiencies found during their inspection, even if no deficiencies are found during the inspection process. Now, it's the facility's responsibility to complete a plan of correction response for the deficiencies cited and submit it to the OSFM for review and acceptance. However, some facilities are not quite sure of the exact process required for submitting their plan of correction response.

One thing to keep in mind is that it doesn't matter if OSFM conducts a Federal Life Safety Code survey at a Hospital, Ambulatory Surgical Center, Long Term Care Unit, Nursing Facility, or Immediate Care Facility for the Mentally Retarded; or if they conduct a State Routine inspection at a School, Childcare Center, Residential Board and Care, Propane facility, or Hotel/Motel; all facility/occupancy types are required to submit their



plan of correction response to the OSFM within 10 calendar days from the date of inspection.

Some facilities cannot correct a deficiency within the required timeframe due to correction of some deficiencies cited may require getting bids, possible remodel, replacement of equipment, etc. In this

case, a waiver request must be submitted requesting additional time to correct. It should be noted, however; that the waiver request form must be submitted to OSFM along with the initial plan of correction response (within 10 calendar days of the date of inspection). All plan of correction responses can be submitted to OSFM by either: email; fax; or US Mail.

Again, at the conclusion of the OSFM inspection at any occupancy type, the OSFM inspector will review any and all deficiencies observed during their inspection process, they will provide you with your violation notice, and also separate paperwork entitled ***"How to Submit a Plan of Correction"***. This paperwork gives specific instructions for submitting a plan of correction response, as well as instructions on how to complete and submit a waiver request form.

If a facility has any questions on the process, they can always contact the OSFM Topeka office at 785-296-3401 and ask to speak with an Enforcement Inspector.

Day Care Fire Safety By Mike Wikle, Prevention Inspector

When planning to open a day care facility, fire safety is a major concern. You are ultimately responsible for the safety of every individual who enters your premises: staff, children, parents, and visitors. It's therefore essential that you have in place a fire safety policy which, in conjunction with excellent safety features throughout your premises, means that you are doing everything to ensure fire safety in your day care. Your job is to take steps necessary to minimize fire risk and should a fire occur you will have procedures in place to evacuate staff and children.

What steps are you taking to avoid

the risk of fire at your day care? Your safety program should detail and address safe storage of chemicals and liquids, safe storage of gas cooking items (outdoor grills), and making sure that the propane tank can't be tampered with. It might be wise to remove the tank from the unit to prevent it from being accidentally turned on by children if stored outside in the backyard where they are playing.

Does the person you leave in charge while you're gone know what to do? Ongoing staff training is also a vital element of your program so staff knows what to do in the event of an emergency and can act calmly and quickly. This training and re-

view of your safety program only takes a few minutes and you should have regular refreshers annually with them, and document that you have spoken with them, time, date, and signature would be appropriate ways to keep documentation for this. Your drills should include the name of the daycare, person conducting the drill, time, who is calling the fire department, and how many children had participated. Finally the report should highlight any areas that caused concerns or needs improvement.

Doing just the following items listed above will ultimately reduce some of the potential fire risk within your day care.

From our Haz-Mat Division:

Dealing Safely with Chlorine

What chlorine is

- Chlorine is an element used in industry and found in some household products.
- Chlorine can be a poisonous gas or a liquid.
- Chlorine gas can be recognized by its pungent, irritating odor, which smells like bleach (the strong smell may be a warning of exposure).
- Chlorine gas appears to be yellow-green in color.
- Chlorine is not flammable, but can react explosively or form explosive compounds with other chemicals like turpentine or ammonia.

Where chlorine is found and how it is used

- Chlorine was used in WW I as a choking (pulmonary) agent.
- Chlorine is one of the most commonly manufactured chemicals in the US, used as a bleach, in the manufacture of paper and cloth, and also used to make pesticides (insect killers), rubber, and solvents.
- Chlorine is used in drinking water and swimming pool water to kill harmful bacteria and as part of the sanitation process for industrial waste/sewage.
- Household chlorine bleach can release chlorine gas if mixed with other cleaners.

How people can be exposed to chlorine



- People may be exposed through skin or eye contact, or by breathing contaminated air.
- People may be exposed by touching or drinking water exposed to chlorine.
- People may be exposed by eating food contaminated with liquid chlorine.
- People's risk for exposure depends on how close they are to the place where the chlorine was released.
- Chlorine gas is heavier than air, so it settles in low-lying areas.

How chlorine works

- The extent of poisoning caused by chlorine depends on the amount of chlorine a person is exposed to, how the person was exposed, and the length of time of the exposure.
- When chlorine gas comes into contact with moist tissues such as the eyes, throat, and lungs, an acid is

produced that can damage these tissues.

What the long-term health effects are

- Long-term complications from chlorine exposure are not found in people who survive a sudden exposure unless they suffer complications like pneumonia during therapy. Chronic bronchitis may develop in people who develop pneumonia during therapy.

Signs/symptoms of chlorine exposure

During or immediately after exposure to dangerous concentrations of chlorine, the following signs and symptoms may develop:

- Coughing
- Chest tightness
- Burning sensation in the nose, throat, and eyes
- Watery eyes
- Blurred vision



- Nausea and vomiting
- Burning pain, redness, and blisters on the skin if exposed to gas
- Skin injury similar to frostbite if exposed to liquid chlorine
- Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath (may appear immediately if high concentrations of chlorine gas are inhaled, or may be delayed if low concentrations of chlorine gas are inhaled)

Fluid in the lungs (pulmonary edema) within 2 to 4 hours

How to protect yourself, and what to do if exposed to chlorine

- Leave the area, and getting to fresh air is highly effective in reducing exposure.
- If outdoor release, move away from the release, to the highest ground possible
- If indoor release, get out of the building immediately. If you think you may have been exposed, remove your clothing, rapidly wash your entire body with soap and water, and get medical care as

quickly as possible.

Handling of exposed clothing

- Remove clothing quickly, do NOT pull over head.
- Seal clothing in a plastic bag. Then double seal the first bag into a second plastic bag.
- Inform emergency or medical personnel you have sealed

the clothing - do NOT handle the bags.

- If helping others - avoid touching contaminated areas, remove clothing quickly and seal.



- Wash the entire body with soap and water quickly.
- If your eyes are burning or your vision blurred, rinse your eyes with plain water for 10 to 15 minutes. (remove contact lens first, bag them and do not put them back in)
- If you wear eyeglasses, wash them thoroughly with soap and water before putting them back on.
- If you swallowed chlorine, do not induce vomiting or drink fluids, just seek immediate medical attention.

How chlorine exposure is treated

No antidote exists for chlorine exposure. Treatment consists of removing the chlorine from the body as soon as possible and providing supportive medical care in a hospital setting.

How to know if chlorine is being transported

As required by law, transporting chlorine requires the appropriate placard.

The red box is the flammability factor, the yellow box represents the stability factor and the white box



indicates that chlorine is an oxidizer. The most important information on this placard is the blue box that indicates the health hazard. With the highest level of health risk being a 4, chlorine is generally rated a 3.

How people can get more information about chlorine

Contact the Regional Poison Control Center:
1-800-222-1222 .

Contact the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Public Response Hotline:
1-800-CDC-INFO

TTY Hotline 1-888-232-6348

E-mail inquiries to cdcinfo@cdc.gov

Support the Fallen Firefighter Memorial



In 2001 legislation was signed that authorized the construction of a memorial to be built on the Capitol grounds in Topeka to honor Kansas firefighters who have lost their lives in the line of duty.

A scaled replica is housed at the Office of the State Fire Marshal where it is on view. The OSFM also transports the replica to fire service events across the state.

Please send your tax deductible donation to:

Firefighters Memorial Fund
Attn: Eldred Wenger, DFM
700 SW Harrison, Room 1015
Topeka, KS 66603